

March 8, 2023

TO: The Committee Members

FROM: Karen Marrotte

Washington Depot, CT 06794

SUBJECT: SB1148 Legalize a Lottery to Hunt Black Bears

SB 1149 Remove Restrictions for Hunting Every Day of the Week

I am asking the Committee to OPPOSE the above upcoming bills.

SB1148 – I moved to CT in 1968 from Long Island. Even though I was in my early 20's I could not wait to live in a rural area and watch the birds and wildlife. I always wanted to live harmoniously with CT's wildlife. I have learned that the majority of black bears live in Litchfield County, as I do. I may see a bear once or twice a year but no more than that. Like other wildlife, they learn your routine and for the most part stay to themselves. Killing the bears is not the answer. DEEP needs to have more available information about bears and their habits. We need to remind residents, especially this time of year, to bring in bird feeders, keep garbage cans covered and in a more secure location. Residents can learn to live with wildlife just like they did years ago when rabies came into CT. It is possible. Please oppose this bill. Hunting is not the answer.

SB1149 – It was several years ago that my husband and I was in the Legislative Office asking that we keep Sundays as a day of rest. Now again I am asking that you oppose this bill and remove the restrictions to hunt every day of the week. I enjoy walking in nature and listening to the birds, water, etc. and not having to worry if there are hunters in the woods. I often hear gun shots and pray that the bullet is not coming my way. I worry for my safety and the safety of my leashed dogs. Please let me have Sunday as a day of rest for humans and wildlife.